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United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Office of  
Public Affairs

# Selected Speeches and News Releases

October 4 - October 11, 1990

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# News Releases

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U.S. Department of Agriculture • Office of Public Affairs

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## **TUNISIA ELIGIBLE FOR MORE WHEAT UNDER EXPORT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4—Under Secretary of Agriculture Richard T. Crowder today announced an opportunity for sales of an additional 500,000 metric tons of U.S. wheat to Tunisia under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Export Enhancement Program.

Sales of wheat will be made to buyers in Tunisia through normal commercial channels at competitive world prices. The export sales will be facilitated through the payment of bonuses in the form of commodities from the inventory of USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation. The subsidy will enable U.S. exporters to compete at commercial prices in the Tunisian market.

This allocation will be valid for a one-year period as provided for in the invitation for offers. Details of the program, including an invitation for offers from exporters, will be issued in the near future.

For more information call Paul Cummins, (202) 382-9240, or Larry McIvain, (202) 447-3224. For a tape-recorded message announcing the issuance of invitations under EEP call the CCC Operations Hotline, (202) 447-2042.

Sally Klusaritz (202) 447-3448

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## **USDA PRESENTS AWARDS TO MINORITY CONTRACTORS**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4—Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter today announced the U.S. Department of Agriculture presented awards to eight minority contractors for providing exemplary service.

"These contractors have reliably and expeditiously supplied USDA with goods and services, often ahead of schedule," Yeutter said. "We are pleased to honor them today for their outstanding accomplishments."

At the awards presentation, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Adis M. Vila acknowledged that while small businesses have benefited from USDA



contracting, minority and women-owned businesses have not been proportionally represented in the procurement process.

Vila said new initiatives for USDA's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization will lead to greater participation of minorities in USDA contracting. These initiatives include increasing 8(A) set-aside awards, increasing the dollar value subcontracting opportunities for minority and women-owned firms, and structuring large dollar procurements so that portions can be broken out for competition among small businesses.

"In May 1990 Secretary Yeutter announced a comprehensive work force diversity plan for USDA. USDA is equally committed to achieving parity in

Ten USDA employees were also honored for their diligent contributions to the minority business community: Susie A. Boling, Marla J. Kuehne and Joanne L. Munno, Office of Operations; Raymond E. Suehr, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service; Richard G. Irwin, Kathleen K. Morris, Patricia Davis, David Springer, Christina Beaulieu, and Alan Connell, Agricultural Research Service.

Sherry Cohen (202) 447-7117

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## **SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE YEUTTER REPORTS WETLAND LOSSES DOWN DURING 1980s**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4—Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter reported today that wetland losses on private lands slowed significantly during the mid-1980s.

"We estimate that total wetland losses were between 100,000 and 200,000 acres a year from 1982 to 1987, including areas that reverted to open water," Yeutter said. "This is significantly less than losses estimated previously."

The information comes from the 1987 National Resources Inventory, conducted on nonfederal lands by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Soil Conservation Service. Estimates are based on the 300,000 sample sites used for both the 1982 and 1987 inventories.

The inventory shows 82 million acres of wetlands on nonfederal rural land in 1987, down from 83.2 million acres in 1982. SCS estimates the loss of wetlands to agricultural and development uses at closer to 500,000

acres, or 100,000 acres per year. The remaining change in wetlands was due to factors such as 300,000 acres changing from private to federal ownership—still likely remaining in wetlands but not included in the SCS nonfederal lands inventory—and over 400,000 acres that changed to open water, primarily adjacent to the Great Salt Lake in Utah and in southern Louisiana.

The national inventory indicates that between 1982 and 1987, about 215,000 acres of wetlands were converted on nonfederal rural lands—including conversion to farmland and drying up due to drought conditions—and about 280,000 were lost to development.

By region, the inventory indicates wetland losses for the five-year period were greatest in the Southeast, Delta States and the Lake States. SCS estimates that between 1982 and 1987 the Southeast lost 170,000 acres of wetlands; the Delta States, 150,000 acres; and the Lake States, 80,000 acres.

The NRI does not reflect increases in wetlands as a result of the Conservation Reserve Program, which was getting underway at the time of the inventory. The Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service reports more than 400,000 acres of cropped wetlands have been enrolled in the CRP. These wetlands are being restored, and native vegetation is being reestablished, including 83,000 acres into bottomland hardwoods.

SCS conducts the National Resources Inventory every five years in cooperation with the Iowa State University Statistical Laboratory. The inventory serves as a principal source of information on the status, condition and trends of soil, water and related resources, and provides a nationally consistent soil and water resource database for nonfederal rural lands.

The following table shows wetland types 1-20 on non-federal rural land by crop production region (in 1,000 acres):

Region	1982	1987	Change	Estimated True Loss
Corn Belt	2,851.6	2,828.8	-22.8	-30
Southern Plains	3,776.7	3,763.6	-13.1	-10
Northern Plains	5,521.3	5,509.3	-12.0	-10
Appalachian	5,912.6	5,733.8	-178.8	-50
Delta States	11,506.6	11,314.5	-192.1	-150
Southeast	21,922.3	21,614.2	-308.1	-170
Northeast	7,891.1	7,834.5	-56.6	-50
Lake States	17,212.3	17,148.8	-63.5	-80
Pacific	2,638.4	2,584.4	-54.0	-40
Mountain	3,877.2	3,583.8	-293.4	-30
Other	101.4	98.4	-3.0	--
Total	83,211.5	82,014.1	-1,197.4*	-620

\*Nearly half of this 1,197,400 acres should not be interpreted as true loss in wetlands; some areas changed from non-Federal to Federal ownership and are still likely wetlands. Many of the areas now reported as open water will return to wetland status when high water recedes (e.g., Great Salt Lake's flooded condition). The 1,197,400 acres is comprised of the following:

- 300,100 acres — Net change from non-Federal to Federal.
- 401,000 acres — Net change from land to open water.
- 280,500 acres — Estimated net loss to development.
- 215,800 acres — Estimated net loss on non-Federal rural land. (This reflects a reduction of 250,200 acres and an addition of 34,400 acres.)

Note: The Soil Conservation Service's National Resources Inventory only makes wetland determinations for areas that are non-Federal rural land and not classified as open water.

Kelly Shipp (202) 447-4623

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USDA ANNOUNCES PREVAILING WORLD MARKET PRICE  
FOR UPLAND COTTON

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4—Under Secretary of Agriculture Richard T. Crowder today announced the prevailing world market price, adjusted to U.S. quality and location (adjusted world price), for Strict Low Middling (SLM) 1-1/16 inch (micronaire 3.5-4.9) upland cotton (base quality) and the coarse count adjustment in effect from 12:01 a.m. Friday, Oct. 5, through midnight Thursday, Oct. 11.

Since the adjusted world price (AWP) is above the 1988, 1989, and 1990 crop base quality loan rates of 51.80, 50.00 and 50.27 cents per pound, respectively, the loan repayment rates for the 1988, 1989 and 1990 crops of upland cotton during this period are equal to the respective loan rates for the specific quality and location.

The AWP will continue to be used to determine the value of upland cotton that is obtained in exchange for commodity certificates. Because the AWP in effect is above the established loan rate, loan deficiency payments are not available for 1990-crop upland cotton sold during this period.

Based on data for the week ending Oct. 4, the AWP for upland cotton and the coarse count adjustment are determined as follows:

Adjusted World Price	
Northern Europe Price .....	80.56
Adjustments:	
Average U.S. spot market location .....	13.13
SLM 1-1/16 inch cotton .....	2.15
Average U.S. location .....	0.35
Sum of Adjustments .....	-15.63
ADJUSTED WORLD PRICE .....	64.93 cents/lb.
Coarse Count Adjustment	
Northern Europe Price .....	80.56
Northern Europe Coarse Count Price .....	-76.48
	4.08
Adjustment to SLM 1-inch cotton .....	-4.10
	0.02
COARSE COUNT ADJUSTMENT .....	0 cents/lb.

The next AWP and coarse count adjustment announcement will be made on Thursday, Oct. 11.

Charles Cunningham (202) 447-7954

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## **FOREST SERVICE AND NRA TO COOPERATE IN RESOURCE CONSERVATION**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5—F. Dale Robertson, chief of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, announced today that the Forest Service and the National Rifle Association of America will work together to promote natural resource conservation and safe and ethical firearms use.

“Our long-term plans are to improve wildlife habitat and recreation opportunities on the national forests,” Robertson said, “and we’re pleased to have the National Rifle Association as a partner to help in this important effort.”

Robertson said the Forest Service and the NRA share an interest in promoting safe firearms use and reducing vandalism on public lands, and will cooperate to achieve better conservation and public enjoyment of natural resources on national forests.

J. Warren Cassidy, executive vice president of the National Rifle Association of America, said, “Much of our cooperation will center around NRA affiliates working directly with Forest Service managers on individual national forests and grasslands. NRA has a huge network of local affiliates, and one of the best ways to accomplish our goals will be to mobilize the labor and resources of this grassroots network in support of mutually beneficial programs with the Forest Service.”

Len Carey (202) 475-3782

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## **NO FINDLEY PAYMENTS FOR 1989-CROP CORN AND SORGHUM**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5—The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced today that no Findley payments will be made for 1989-crop corn and sorghum under the price support and production program since

the 12-month national weighted average market prices for these commodities exceeded the basic support level.

Payments are made when the basic support level for a crop of a commodity is reduced to maintain domestic and export markets for that commodity. Findley payments are made when the 12-month national weighted average market price is less than the price support level before it was reduced.

The national average market prices per bushel received by producers from September 1989 through August were \$2.36 for corn and \$2.10 for sorghum (\$3.75 per hundredweight). The basic price support level for each of these commodities was \$2.06 and \$1.96, respectively.

Bruce Merkle (202) 447-8206.

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## **NUMBER OF CATTLE HERDS QUARANTINED FOR BRUCELLOSIS DROPS BELOW 1,000**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5—The number of herds under quarantine for brucellosis has dipped below the 1,000 mark for the first time since the start of the cooperative state-federal brucellosis eradication program, a U.S. Department of Agriculture official reported today.

“This marks a significant point in the joint effort to eradicate this costly disease of cattle,” said James W. Glosser, administrator of USDA’s Animal and plant Health Inspection Service. “At the same time, we need to maintain our efforts against brucellosis so we can bring the incidence of this disease to zero.”

According to Glosser, at the beginning of September there were 959 cattle herds under quarantine for brucellosis, down from 1,005 the previous month.

“In the early 1930’s, when eradication efforts first started, 5 percent of the nation’s cattle herds were estimated to be infected with brucellosis, a disease that causes abortions and lowered milk production. By the late 1950’s, there were nearly 124,000 herds under quarantine. By 1980, this had been cut to 7,074; by 1985 to 4,533.

“Although the last bit of infection is always the most difficult to eradicate,” Glosser said, “dropping below the 1,000 level is a real landmark. More importantly, we’re seeing the best cooperation ever with



the states and with cattle producers. If we continue to apply the eradication procedures that we know will work, we'll defeat this disease.

"I'm looking forward to the day," he said, "when the United States can be declared 'brucellosis free.'" Glosser noted that a number of other countries, including Canada, have eradicated brucellosis.

Currently, 29 states plus the U.S. Virgin Islands have been declared free of brucellosis. States not considered free of brucellosis are put into one of three classes, depending on the rate of infection. Class A status means that no more than 0.25 percent of the herds are infected. Today, 15 states and Puerto Rico are in that category, with several of them almost entirely free of infection. The remaining 6 states are in Class B, which indicates a higher infection rate. There are no states in Class C, which represents a herd infection rate of greater than 1.5 percent.

A state is declared free of brucellosis when, after 12 consecutive months, no cattle are found to be infected and when the state has met other program requirements. Cattle owners in "free" states benefit by no longer having to test their animals for brucellosis before they can be sold.

Larry Mark (202) 447-3977

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## **PRIVATE EXPORTERS REPORT SALES ACTIVITY FOR USSR**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5—Private exporters today reported to the U.S. Department of Agriculture export sales of 205,000 metric tons of soybean meal for delivery to the USSR during the 1990-91 marketing year and under the final quarter (Oct. 1 through Dec. 31, 1990) of the Long Term Grain Supply Agreement signed Aug. 25, 1983 and extended Nov. 28, 1988. Sales to the USSR for delivery during the final quarter of the agreement now total 355,000 tons of soybean meal.

The marketing year for soybean meal began Oct. 1. Sales of wheat and corn to the USSR for delivery during the seventh year of the agreement (which began Oct. 1, 1989 and ended Sept. 30, 1990) total 20,304,000 tons, of which wheat is 3,817,800 tons and corn is 16,486,200 tons. Sales of soybeans total 342,300 tons and soybean meal total 1,373,800 tons. In addition, sales of barley total 7,300 tons.

USDA issues both daily and weekly export sales reports to the public. Exporters are required to report to USDA export sales of 100,000 metric tons or more of one commodity made in one day, to one destination by



3:00 PM EDT on the next business day following the sale. Export sales of less than these quantities must be reported to USDA on a weekly basis.

Thomas B. McDonald (202) 447-3273

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## **USDA DECIDES TWO ANIMAL WELFARE ACT COMPLIANCE CASES**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5—The U.S. Department of Agriculture settled two cases during August to enforce the humane care and treatment of animals regulated under the Animal Welfare Act.

James W. Glosser, administrator of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, said the cases resulted from earlier charges. Details are:

—Ernest L. Woods, doing business as Hidden Acres Rabbitry in Anthony, Fla., was ordered by an administrative law judge to pay a \$600 civil penalty and cease and desist from future violations of the Animal Welfare Act and, in particular, from operating without a federal animal dealer's license. USDA officials said that Woods allowed his dealer's license to expire in 1982 and did not apply for license renewal until 1988. However, during a period in 1986 and 1988, Woods allegedly sold at least 8,700 rabbits without having the required license to sell animals wholesale.

—Andy Ball, Jr., doing business as Kiser Lake Kennels in St. Paris, Ohio, consented to pay a \$20,000 civil penalty without admitting or denying USDA charges that he failed to provide adequate care and treatment for dogs and cats held at his commercial kennels. Under conditions of the settlement, \$7,500 of the fine is suspended, so long as Ball refrains from any future violations of the Animal Welfare Act. Other terms of the consent decision require that Ball suspend his business operations for 30 days and continuing thereafter, until his kennels are in full compliance with federal regulations. Moreover, he must cooperate and assist APHIS personnel in conducting a complete inventory of all dogs and cats kept at any facility owned or controlled by him as well as have them examined by a licensed veterinarian.

USDA alleged that during the period between March 13, 1989, and July 12, 1990, Ball failed to maintain adequate business records showing the acquisition, disposition and identification of dogs and cats held at his Ford Road and Trestle Road premises. Also, he allegedly failed to keep his animals in housing that was structurally sound and in good repair; effect a suitable method for draining excess water from outdoor facilities; clean and sanitize primary enclosures; maintain an adequate veterinary care program; establish an effective pest control program; hold dogs and cats in compatible groups and in enclosures that were large enough for them to make normal postural adjustments; properly store animal food and bedding supplies, and make adequate provisions for the removal and disposal of waste and other debris accumulated around the buildings and grounds.

Standards for the care and treatment of certain animals have been required by the Animal Welfare Act since 1966. Animals protected by the law must be provided adequate housing, handling, sanitation, food, water, transportation, veterinary care and protection against extremes of weather and temperature. The law covers animals that are sold as pets at the wholesale level or are used for biomedical research or for exhibition purposes.

USDA enforces the act primarily through administrative prosecutions. Many of these cases are resolved through the consent decision provisions of the regulations. Under these provisions, USDA and the respondent named in the complaint agree to a stipulated order and penalties. If the case is not settled, there is a hearing before an administrative law judge who issues a decision. Any party may appeal the administrative law judge's decision to the USDA's judicial officer. The respondent may appeal an adverse decision by the judicial officer to the U. S. Court of Appeals. Failure to respond to the charges in the complaint results in the issuance of a default order assessing penalties.

Dealers, breeders, brokers, transportation companies, exhibitors and research facilities must be licensed or registered. USDA personnel make periodic, unannounced inspections to help assure compliance. Action is taken against violators after efforts to secure compliance are unsuccessful, Glosser said.

Questa Glenn (301) 436-7799

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## USDA SYMPOSIA TO SEEK IMPROVED RECRUITMENT OF HISPANICS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9—The U.S. Department of Agriculture will hold two regional Hispanic Employment Program Symposia in southern California in late October to recruit potential employees of Hispanic heritage.

The first symposium will be on Oct. 23 at Sweetwater High School, National City; the second will be Oct. 24-25 at Southwestern College, Chula Vista.

These symposia are an important step in achieving the goals of a comprehensive plan, “Framework for Change: Work Force Diversity and Delivery of Programs, issued by Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter in May,” said Adis M. Vila, assistant secretary of agriculture for administration. “We seek to improve the representation of Hispanic U.S. citizens in USDA positions.”

“These efforts demonstrate our commitment to the development of activities that will lead to a greater participation of Hispanic students in USDA programs. Our aim is to build a diverse work force mirroring the nation’s labor force at entry, mid, senior, and executive levels by the year 2000. and ensure that this work force delivers programs in an efficient, effective and equitable manner.” said Vila.

The recruitment symposia are part of USDA’s Hispanic Employment Program. HEP’s goal is to increase the percentage of Hispanics employed by USDA. It’s overall aim is to establish continuing contacts between USDA and sources of job applicants, including placement officers at universities, colleges, and high schools.

Several USDA agencies will be recruiting students under the Cooperative Education Program. One of the agencies, the Agriculture Marketing Service, will be testing students on site for agricultural commodity grader positions.

Vila said the symposia will be attended by USDA officials, representatives of universities and high schools with significant Hispanic enrollment, local Hispanic Community leaders, and Hispanic advocacy groups.

For additional on-site information, contact: Sweetwater High School, Lyn Woung, (619) 691-5555; Southwestern College, Susan Herney, (619) 421-6700 ext. 30.

Vie Tidwell (202) 382-0352

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## **NEW JERSEY POULTRY FIRM ORDERED TO PAY OVER \$14,000 IN REIMBURSEMENT FEES**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9—The U.S. District Court of New Jersey has ordered Marzigliano Wholesale Poultry, Inc., of Newark, N.J., to reimburse the federal government \$14,609.93 for a U.S. Department of Agriculture investigation uncovering the company's violations of federal meat and poultry inspection laws.

The amount being reimbursed represents the total government costs of a multi-year investigation by USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service, according to FSIS Administrator Dr. Lester M. Crawford.

Marzigliano was already operating under a permanent injunction issued by the U.S. District Court of New Jersey in 1981 for violations of federal inspections laws. The injunction enjoined the company from selling, transporting or receiving meat or poultry products unless the products comply with federal meat and poultry inspection laws. In addition, the firm cannot offer to sell, transport or receive meat or poultry products unless they comply with inspection laws.

A recent FSIS investigation found that, since 1981, Marzigliano has violated federal inspection laws on eleven separate occasions. Based on these findings, the court modified the 1981 order to stipulate that if the firm commits any further violation of federal inspection laws it must pay a \$5,000 penalty for each violation. The court also ordered Marzigliano to pay the court \$14,609.93 in 24 equal payments to cover investigation costs.

The Food Safety and Inspection Service and its 9,000 employees are dedicated to ensuring meat and poultry products are safe, wholesome and accurately labeled.

Jim Greene (202) 382-0314

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## SCIENTIST'S SCRUTINY MAY YIELD BETTER BREADS FOR TOMORROW

WASHINGTON—To pave the way for even better breads, U.S. Department of Agriculture scientists are unlocking secrets of wheat's critical doughmaking proteins—glutens—and the genes governing these and other vital proteins.

“With samples as tiny as half a kernel, we can help wheat breeders identify a type of gluten protein”—known as gliadin—“that may provide some of the qualities bakers want,” said chemist Jerold A. Bietz of USDA's Agricultural Research Service.

Those qualities yield—among other things—full, uniform loaves with just the right crumb texture.

“When breeders are building new wheats to resist the latest strain of a disease, we can check gliadin in kernels from the most promising plants. That can give us an early indication of how the flour will mix and bake,” said Bietz with the Northern Regional Research Center, Peoria, Ill.

Screening wheat kernels with a high-tech procedure—reversed—phase high performance liquid chromatography—gives an incredible amount of information, said Peoria chemist Floyd R. Huebner.

“We may be able to tell if kernels from wild relatives of wheat have the proteins that breeders want,” Huebner said. “With chromatography we can get answers in one day instead of in months or years.”

Scientists also scrutinize the other major gluten component—glutenin. High-quality glutenin makes for strong, stretchy, highly elastic doughs that are easy for bakers to work with. But not all glutenins are created equal.

Some scientists speculate that heavy, high molecular weight glutenins add desirable strength and elasticity to dough. To find out, ARS chemists Donald D. Kasarda and H. Peggy Tao, Albany, Calif., are exploring the structure of glutenins of assorted weights, shapes and sizes. The research could aid genetic engineering of glutenins to outperform those in today's wheats.

While some scientists grapple with the hows and whys of glutenins and gliadins, others try to identify powerful genetic on-off switches that biotechnologists can splice onto wheat genes to boost drought resistance or other valuable traits.

Because inserting new genes into wheat is extremely difficult, Albany scientists, including chemist Frank C. Greene, are using corn cells to test switches—called promoters—taken from wheat. They found that a wheat gene promoter—which normally turns on only in wheat—works when inserted in corn cells.

“Now we can judge a promising wheat gene promoter in just a few days, instead of years,” Greene said.

Other ARS wheat projects are underway in cooperation with industry, universities and agricultural experiment stations to:

- Breed new, high-protein wheats to halt the decline of protein levels in Nebraska’s hard red winter wheats.

- Use near-infrared wavelengths to gauge wheat’s hardness, which dictates the price a carload of wheat will command.

- Enlist beneficial wasps to prey on the rusty grain beetle, a major pest of stored wheat.

- Snoop on another storage pest, the lesser grain borer, with an experimental acoustic system that amplifies, up to 75,000 times, the insect’s otherwise undetectable grain-munching.

Marcia Wood (415) 559-6070

Issued: Oct. 9, 1990

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## **USDA ANNOUNCES PREVAILING WORLD MARKET RICE PRICES**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9—Under Secretary of Agriculture Richard T. Crowder today announced the prevailing world market prices of milled rice, loan rate basis, as follows:

- long grain whole kernels, 8.28 cents per pound;
- medium grain whole kernels, 7.32 cents per pound;
- short grain whole kernels, 7.27 cents per pound;
- broken kernels, 4.14 cents per pound.

Based upon these prevailing world market prices for milled rice, rough rice world prices are estimated to be:

- long grain, \$5.20 per hundredweight;
- medium grain, \$4.72 per hundredweight;
- short grain, \$4.70 per hundredweight.

The prices announced are effective today at 3 p.m. EDT. The next scheduled price announcement will be made Oct.16, at 3 p.m. EDT, although prices may be announced sooner if warranted.

Gene Rosera (202) 447-7923

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## **PRIVATE EXPORTERS REPORT SALES ACTIVITY FOR UNKNOWN**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9—Private exporters today reported to the U.S. Department of Agriculture export sales of 111,760 metric tons of soybeans for delivery to unknown destinations during the 1990-91 marketing year.

The marketing year for soybeans began Sept. 1.

USDA issues both daily and weekly export sales reports to the public. Exporters are required to report to USDA export sales of 100,000 metric tons or more of one commodity, made in one day, to one destination by 3 p.m., eastern time on the next business day following the sale. Export sales of less than these quantities must be reported to USDA on a weekly basis.

Thomas B. McDonald (202) 447-3273

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## **USDA DECLARES IDAHO FREE OF CATTLE BRUCELLOSIS**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 10—The U.S. Department of Agriculture today declared Idaho free of cattle brucellosis. With the addition of Idaho, 30 states and the U.S. Virgin Islands are now free of this costly disease of cattle.

USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service determined that Idaho was free of brucellosis because no cattle herds were found to be infected with the disease for 12 consecutive months and the state met all other program requirements. This achievement was attained through cooperation by the livestock industry, state officials, veterinarians and many others. Cattle owners in "free" states benefit by no longer having to test their animals for brucellosis before they can be sold. Savings will amount to more than \$300,000 per year in Idaho.



States not considered free of brucellosis are put into one of three classes, depending on the rate of infection. Class A status means that no more than 0.25 percent of the herds are infected. Today, 15 states and Puerto Rico are in that category, with several of them almost entirely free of infection. The remaining 6 states are in Class B, which indicates a higher infection rate. There are no states in Class C, which represents a herd infection rate of greater than 1.5 percent.

Brucellosis, or “Bang’s disease,” causes abortion, reduced fertility and lower milk yields in cattle. Nationwide, cattle producers still incur annual production losses of more than \$12 million from brucellosis. Humans can be infected by drinking unpasteurized milk from infected animals or by handling aborted fetuses from brucellosis-infected animals.

An interim rule designating Idaho as free of cattle brucellosis became effective Oct. 9 and will be published in the Oct. 12 Federal Register. Comments on the action will be accepted if they are received on or before Nov. 11. An original and three copies of written comments referring to Docket 90-178 should be sent to Chief, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, USDA, Room 866 Federal Building, 6505 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, Md. 20782. Comments may be inspected at USDA, Rm. 1141-S, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C., between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Amichai Heppner (301) 436-5222

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## **PRIVATE EXPORTERS REPORT SALES ACTIVITY FOR EGYPT**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 10—Private exporters today reported to the U.S. Department of Agriculture export sales of 120,000 metric tons of corn for delivery to Egypt during the 1990-91 marketing year.

The marketing year for corn began Sept. 1.

USDA issues both daily and weekly export sales reports to the public. Exporters are required to report to USDA export sales of 100,000 metric tons or more of one commodity, made in one day, to one destination by 3:00 PM eastern time on the next business day following the sale. Export



sales of less than these quantities must be reported to USDA on a weekly basis.

Thomas B. McDonald (202) 447-3273

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## **YEUTTER SEEKS NOMINEES FOR NATIONAL DAIRY BOARD**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 10—Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter today asked dairy producer and farm organizations certified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to nominate candidates to succeed 12 members of the National Dairy Promotion and Research Board whose terms expire April 30, 1991.

Yeutter will appoint 12 from those nominated to serve 3-year terms beginning May 1, 1991, and ending April 30, 1994.

Members whose 3-year terms expire April 30 are Steve Hofman, Modesto, Calif. (region 2); Harry A. Papageorge, Ogden, Utah (region 3); James R. Lefebvre, Elk River, Minn. and Ervin M. Silvers, Albany, Minn. (region 5); Frederick E. Anding, Hudson, Wis. and Timothy C. O'Harrow, Oconto Falls, Wis. (region 6); Harold E. Rice, DuQuoin, Ill. (region 7); Buckey M. Jones, Smithdale, Miss. (region 8); Harold E. Reiff, Burnettsville, Ind. (region 9); James M. Dorn Jr., Edgefield, S.C. (region 10); Horace W. Waybright, Gettysburg, Pa. (region 11); and William T. Underwood, Tully, N.Y. (region 12).

All of the above members, except Buckey Jones and James Dorn, have served one 3-year term and thus are eligible for re-nomination. The two exceptions are not eligible for re-nomination since they have served two terms. No terms for regions 1 (Washington and Oregon), 4 (Texas, N.M., Kansas, Okla., and Ark.) and 13 (Conn., Maine, Mass., N.H., R.I., and Vt.) expire in 1991.

The National Dairy Promotion and Research Board was established under the Dairy and Tobacco Adjustment Act of 1983 to develop and administer a coordinated program of promotion, research and nutrition education. The 36-member board of milk producers is authorized to design programs to strengthen the dairy industry's position in domestic and foreign markets.

The national program is financed by a mandatory 15-cent per hundredweight assessment on all milk marketed commercially by dairymen in the contiguous 48 states.

Nominations must be submitted by Nov. 16 to Bonnie Tanner, USDA, AMS, Dairy Division, Promotion and Research Staff, Rm. 2753-S, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456. For more information, contact Tanner at (202) 447-6909.

Clarence Steinberg (202) 447-6179

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**THIS WEEK’S HONEY-LOAN REPAYMENT LEVELS  
UNCHANGED**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11—Producers may repay their 1989 honey price-support loans at the following levels, according to Keith D. Bjerke, executive vice president of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Commodity Credit Corporation:

**Weekly Honey-loan Repayment Levels, color and class, cents per  
pound, 1989 crop Table**

White .....	40.0
Extra-light Amber .....	37.0
Light Amber .....	36.0
Amber .....	35.0
Nontable.....	33.0

The weekly repayment level for 1990-crop honey is 38.0 cents per pound for all colors, table and nontable grades.

Levels are unchanged from those announced last week.

Producers who redeem their honey pledged as loan collateral by repaying their honey-price support loans at these levels may not repledge the same honey as collateral for another loan.

Jane K. Phillips (202) 447-7601 8:00 am-4:30 pm EST  
John C. Ryan (202) 447-8207 4:30 pm-5:30 pm EST

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